

2-10-2008

Arête February 2008

Honors College

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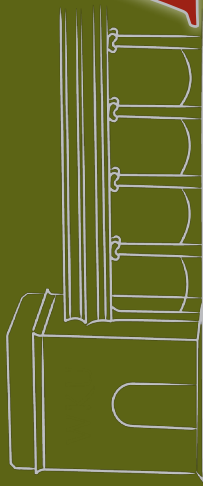
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College, Honors, "Arête February 2008" (2008). *Arête: Honors College at WKU Newsletter*. Paper 7.
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ARETÉ



THE SPIRIT OF ENGAGED EXCELLENCE – A PUBLICATION OF THE WKU HONORS COLLEGE

FEB. 2008

VOL.3 ISSUE 4



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The CE/Thesis and You: How to get along with each other

REAGAN GILLEY

Junior Class HDB Representative

The Capstone Experience or Thesis (CE/T) is quite the daunting task. It is a large project, one that stands in between you and your graduation. However, do not fear! The staff of the Honors Center has been hard at work on developing a CE/T Survival Guide to help students like ourselves through the process. This guide is currently going through the final stages of revision and should be ready and accessible on the Honors website (<http://www.wku.edu/Honors/>) soon. In the meantime, I'll give a brief summary of it below:

The CE/T Survival Guide defines a CE/T as "a sustained piece of independent work, conceived by the student and completed under the supervision of a faculty Advisor and Advisory committee, in which the student demonstrates that he or she has mastered a subject or problem, completed research on a topic, or added new knowledge to a certain field of study." Your CE/T project will be a work of its own—your own independent, novel idea. It is a chance for you to find something that interests you, look into its depths, and communicate what you have learned.

The CE/T Survival Guide covers a number of topics ranging from when to start your thesis, how to begin writing or compiling it, how to find an advisor for your project, to

"I have no idea what my CE/T topic should be. Help!" and much more.

The Guide will be a fantastic source for helping you find the right track and walking you through the steps. The mere 23-page long document should help ease any anxieties that you may have about the task at hand—maybe even put them to rest. If nothing else, the staff at the Honors Center is available to help and answer questions.

Additionally, do not forget about the Kentucky Honors Roundtable (KHRT) this coming Feb. 29 to March 1. It is a fantastic event (in addition to being lots of fun). This year it is being held at Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) in Richmond. KHRT provides a really relaxed environment to showcase any sort of research or work that you have been working on, and is good practice for preparing for more formal conferences. If you are not presenting, there are a number of good, extremely varied talks to see (I've seen ones over Bruce Campbell, the B-movie king, to astrophysics) and lots of good discussion. Presentation proposals are due Feb. 14 and should be sent to Jeremy Phillips (jeremy.phillips@wku.edu) along with any other questions.

Like always, if you have any questions, concerns, or comments please feel free to contact myself or any of your other HDB representatives. I hope to see you all at KHRT and best of luck on your CE/T!

HDB Student Representatives

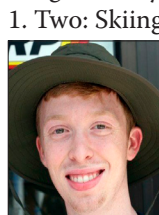
1. *What is your favorite winter sport?*
2. *What is your favorite dorm/school smell?*
3. *If you could create a colloquia class, what would it be called?*

Jeff Sorce, senior:



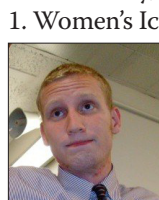
1. Skiing
2. Cinnamon apple Glade plug-ins in my hall
3. I would create a colloquia that would discuss the pros and cons of having a Math/Science Academy on a college campus.

Reagan Gilley, junior:



1. Two: Skiing (I'm a madman on the slopes) and Skeleton
2. Fresh Coffee (really, anything but that burnt popcorn smell)
3. Methods of World Domination

Kevin Smiley, sophomore:



1. Women's Ice Hockey
2. My roommate
3. Forrest Gump the Colloquia -or- Used Bookstores in Today's Society

Lindsey Filiatreau, freshman:



1. My favorite winter sport is definitely winter guard. It's basically color guard without the marching band... super fly.
2. Personally, I'm a big fan of the dog food smell that often lingers in the air here at WKU.
3. The History and Lasting Effects of the Original Nintendo Entertainment System

Student assistants fuel Honors College

KENDRICK BRYAN

Areté staff writer

Honors College director Dr. Craig T. Cobane's job description on his Facebook profile says, "I pretend to influence a fantastic group of Honors students."

Unlike the 1979 made-for-television film starring Christopher Connelly, the Honors Center has its own *Fantastic Seven*.

Owensboro junior Ashley Belcher; Bowling Green sophomore Jenna Binion; Anderson County senior Leah Craig; Franklin, Tenn., freshman Nikki Deese; DeKoven sophomore Sarah Howell; Pinville sophomore Jerebeth Lucas; and East Bernstadt sophomore Maggie Roe are the seven student assistants working at the Honors College, and they have a wide array of roles and responsibilities.

"When I was hired I was told I would mainly be working for Amy Chester (Honors advisor and program coordinator) with upcoming Honors events and things like that. But because of the budget cuts felt across Kentucky, I've had to

help out with the front desk," Deese said, "I make flyers, prepare emails, call businesses, create Facebook events, make postcards, and get all the preparations for Honors events ready. Anything Amy needs me to do; I do it with the best of my ability and creativity."

Craig commonly works at the front desk and she is also the Coordinator of Membership of the HonorsToppers. "I answer the phones, greet visitors, and do random errands for the staff," Craig added. "My favorite duty last semester was planning the Honors Faculty Luncheon."

While Roe assists Honors admissions counselor Lindsey Thurman with recruitment and incoming Honors applications, Binion is working the front desk.

"One of my favorite parts about working here is the heads up on basically everything. I am able to know about trips we are taking and deadlines for those, meeting dates and times, scholarships, etc," Binion said, "Accompanying this is the 'gentle encouragement' that you get from Honors staff members to participate and apply for such things."

Howell is the assistant to Shane Bradley, the IT consultant. She usually works on the Honors Website, Hon-Com, and photos for the picture galleries.

"Working at the Honors Center is enjoyable for me because I do the majority of my work on a computer," added Howell, "That is what I plan to do for the rest of my life; so I am learning things now by working with Shane that will be helpful later on. Also, it lets me know that I am headed in the right direction for my future."

Lucas works closely with Amy Casebolt, the office associate of the Honors Center. Belcher often works with Honors special assistant Jeremy Phillips.

"I am assisting with Kentucky Honors Roundtable (KHRT), study abroad (Harlaxton) and prestigious scholarships," Belcher said. "I think my favorite part of working at the Honors Center is getting to meet all of the prospective students that come in the office. Whether I am working at the front desk or on a project, I try to sit down with the student while they are waiting, just to talk about WKU and the Honors College."

Honors Club – New Officers

1. *Name?*

2. *Class, Major*

3. *Hometown*

4. *Position*

5. *Why did you want to be an officer of Honors Club?*

6. *What's something you like about WKU and the Honors College?*

1. Melissa Foushee
2. Freshman, Broadcast News/Political Science
3. Louisville, Ky.

4. Special Events Committee Chair

5. I wanted to get involved in the Honors College and use my talents to my best ability.

6. I love the community of the Honors College. Having special events and connections are some perks too.

1. Dave Vickery
2. Sophomore, Math and German (secondary education)
3. Taylor Mill, Ky.
4. President
5. I picked the Honors Club as the club to get most involved in, seeing as how they did

a great job last year - and I wanted to be part of that.

6. About Western- a tie between basketball and President Gary Ransdell. About Honors College- the amazing people that work so hard for it.

1. Kevin Smiley (Smiley)
2. Sophomore, History
3. Danville, Ky.
4. Community Service Chair
5. I wanted to be able to help coordinate community service efforts on behalf of the club to make events happen that could benefit the world around us.

6. I love my peers. They make everything fun, interesting, and worthwhile.

1. Chelsea Moulden
2. Freshman, English
3. Louisville, Ky.
4. Treasurer
5. I wanted to be an officer for the club so I could get involved with the Honors College and meet other students with similar interests as me.
6. One thing I love about WKU and the Honors College is our willingness to include food in all club meetings and social events!

Honors students chill at Perfect North

MATT VAUGHAN

Areté staff writer

Around 30 Honors students and faculty attended the trip to Perfect North Slopes in Lawrenceburg, Ind., over Winter Break. For some, this was their first time skiing.

"I had never been skiing before in my life, but I knew the Honors kids were cool, so I thought it would be a pretty fun experience," Honors freshman Doug Tate said.

Tate was one of many students who woke up early in the morning to reserve one of the limited spots on the trip. "It was a dark and stormy morning. I had an 8 a.m. class, woke up twenty minutes early and I was in line to register for the winter trip," Tate said.

The idea for the first Honors College

ski trip was formed by Honors freshman Amanda Beers while on the Honors fall whitewater rafting trip to West Virginia. "We were on the raft talking to our guide and he happened to work at a ski resort in Colorado," Beers said, "Everyone on our raft thought it would be fun to go on a winter trip with the Honors College."

Beers didn't let the idea to end there; she brought it up later that day to Honors College director Dr. Craig T. Cobane. "On the epic bus ride back to the campground, I asked Dr. Cobane if we could go on an Honors College trip over winter break," Beers said, "He said he would support the trip as long as someone else planned it."

Continued on the next page.

*"I asked Dr. Cobane if we could go on an Honors College trip over winter break . . . he said he would support the trip as long as someone else planned it."
-Amanda Beers*



PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Honors students who went on the first-ever Honors ski trip to Perfect North Slopes in Lawrenceburg pose for a picture in the lobby of their hotel. Thirty Honors students went on the trip that took place over winter break.

Honors students chill at Perfect North

Continued from previous page

Later on that evening, Beers mentioned the idea to her fellow raft member Honors freshman Nick Asher. Together with the help of freshman Gary Weeks, the students met on several occasions, researching a variety of locations. Eventually they narrowed the possibilities down to three slopes, each with a different budget.

Then they provided the information to Amy Chester, and from there trip arrangements began and student interest grew.

While this may be the first Honors

ski trip, students agree that this should become an annual event. For Tate, this winter's trip not only helped him learn how to ski but also helped him gain confidence and learn a lesson or two about life.

"I was really nervous but the people that had been skiing before were a lot of help and no one would let me give up," Tate said, "The first few times I fell I would take off my skies and walk down the hill but no one would stop giving me grief about it. So I finally got back up on my skis and made it all the way down the hill without falling."

"I had never been skiing before in my life, but I knew the Honors kids were cool, so I thought it would be a pretty fun experience."

-Doug Tate



A view of Perfect North Slopes in Lawrenceburg, Ind.

SAM MICALLEF



Cobane speaks at BCM

KENDRICK BRYAN

Areté staff writer

Earlier this semester, students, curious about what inspires Honors College director Dr. Craig T. Cobane's remarkable enthusiasm and driven attitude were informed of the answer.

Cobane spoke at the Jan. 22 edition of Baptist Campus Ministry's 180. 180 is a worship service commonly held in Grise Hall Auditorium. The service also entailed music and announcements. Following 180, a social was held at the BCM encouraging students affiliated with BCM and Honors to mix and mingle.

Cobane spoke on a variety of topics including his childhood and his undergraduate experience. He also alluded to the biblical battle between David and Goliath.

Pineville sophomore Jerebeth Lucas, who works with Cobane at the Honors Center, attended the event. "I enjoyed being able to see Dr. Cobane outside of the box of Honors director," Lucas

said, "I liked being able to see him as a human trying to understand life like everyone else."

Cobane was asked to answer the question, "Can Christians think?" He replied yes without hesitation throughout his appearance, and he also informed students how they

could use their talents and abilities by studying abroad and competing for nationally competitive scholarships.

For more information regarding the BCM, contact assistant campus minister Sabrina Pate at sabrina.pate@wku.edu.



PHOTOS BY AMANDA LOVIZA

(Top) Dr. Cobane socializes with students after his talk. (Bottom) Dr. Cobane spoke to students at the Baptist Campus Ministry.

Saving lives one pint at a time

AMANDA LOVIZA

Areté staff writer

Although “life saver” may not be a term normally used to describe college students, it was a very apt phrase on Wednesday, Jan. 30. Students from the Honors College and the Gatton Academy of Mathematics and Science gathered in Garrett Ballroom from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. to donate blood to the American Red Cross.

The blood drive was organized by Quentin Walker, an Academy senior from Webster County Ky., and Kevin Smiley, a sophomore History major from Danville, Ky. and Community Service Chair of the Honors Club.

After three months of planning, the drive came together smoothly. Many Honors and Academy students volunteered to help out, regardless of whether or not they were giving blood themselves.

Jennifer Phillips, a freshman Social Work major from Franklin, Tenn., had worked with the Red Cross in Tennessee and volunteered through Facebook to help at the Honors College/Academy blood drive. Despite being backed up, the drive went well, said Phillips.

While many of the students admitted to being nervous about giving blood, almost every appointment filled was kept, and only one minor incident occurred. In the end, each of the donors came out weighing a bit less and feeling a bit more valuable.

Each time a person gives blood, he or she can

save up to three lives, according to the American Red Cross website. With the 95 students who gave blood, the Academy and the Honors College can proudly declare that they saved up to 285 lives in one day. Life savers, indeed.



TOP PHOTO BY KALA DIAMOND, BOTTOM BY TANNER CURTIS

(top) Academy Student Taki Uchida participates in the first Honors College blood drive. (bottom) A student is escorted to his interview to give blood.



Professor speaks on climate change

KATHERINE SCANGA

Areté staff writer

On the evening of Thursday, Jan. 31, students and faculty members met in the recital hall of FAC to hear Chris Antonsen, a professor in the Folk Studies department, present Al Gore's slide show about global climate change.

Dr. Jenifer Lewis encouraged her Honors Communication 145 class to attend, claiming, "It is a good example of public speaking outside of the classroom" as well as an issue of concern. She said that she hoped to "open minds to major thought processes in society and higher education."

Although Dr. Lewis feels that such events should be open to the college as a whole, she thinks that Honors students generally gain a different experience from such speakers than most. She believes they are often "more critical consumers of messages" and thinks that they are often already more informed about issues such as this.

Honors freshman Chris Colonna is currently in Dr. Lewis's class, and attended the presentation. This was the second time he has seen the presentation, and said he noticed things he missed the first time, like how to be a good public speaker. "It taught me a lot about speaking with visual tools and being able to connect with the audience," he said.

The most obvious message of the presentation, and Dr. Lewis's favorite part, is the gravity of the situation. Antonsen himself said he hopes the slide show will instill in listeners a sense of urgency. The slide show is also featured in the documentary by Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Truth*.



KATHERINE SCANGA

Professor Chris Antonsen lectures about global climate change in the Ivan Wilson Center for the Fine Arts' recital hall on Jan 31.

Students get Shakespearean in Louisville

LAUREL WILSON

Areté staff writer

Five Honors students joined an Academy trip to see *The Tempest* at Actor's Theatre of Louisville. The group made the two-hour trip to Louisville on Saturday, Jan. 26 and enjoyed lunch at The Spaghetti Factory before catching a matinee performance of the Shakespeare play.

The play is about a sorcerer who is a

rightful duke, but was usurped of his title by his brother many years ago. He lives on an uninhabited island with his daughter, and realizes that his brother and other enemies will be sailing close to his island. He creates a giant storm—the "Tempest"—to shipwreck them on his island, so they can finally confront each other about their issues.

Honors sophomore Autumn Jarvis wanted to attend the play because she took a Shakespeare class while study-

ing abroad in Harlaxton last semester. "*The Tempest* isn't my favorite Shakespeare play," she said, "but the performance was still good."

However, Honors freshman Maytha Frankford was not as familiar with Shakespeare as Jarvis.

"I didn't understand a lot of what went on during the play," she said. "But it was fun to be able to go to Louisville, because I'd never been." One way or another, this trip was magical for everyone who went.

Freshman attends Power 100 Summit

SAM MICALLEF

Areté staff writer

Shortly after celebrating the New Year, freshman Honors student Matt Vaughan packed his bags for Washington, D.C. He represented WKU from Jan. 2 to Jan. 5 at The Power 100 Summit. Sponsored by the ONE campaign, The Power 100 Summit was a national conference for the chapter leaders of the top 100 universities and colleges in the ONE Campus Challenge. The ONE Campus Challenge is a competition between all the nation's universities and colleges where schools compete against one another for having the most support for ONE in weekly challenges that promote global awareness.

Actively involved in ONE since high school, Vaughan became excited when he found out about the Campus Challenge. With the help of Americans for Informed Democracy (AID), Vaughan quickly advocated ONE and encouraged WKU student involvement. At the end of 2007, WKU was ranked in the top twenty-five in the Campus Challenge. Being in the top 100 made Vaughan eligible for the conference, and his background made him the perfect candidate to represent WKU.

At the conference, ONE leaders had the opportunity to hear excellent guest speakers including former press secretaries and Jenna Bush talk about various global issues. Every participant even received a signed copy of Bush's book, *Ana's Story: A journey of hope*. Students also had several opportunities to mingle with one another. "My favorite part of the trip," Vaughan said, "was meeting with the student activists from other colleges because talking to them helps you see that we are capable of accomplishing things together."

At the sessions he attended, Vaughan learned how to meet with, engage, and establish a relationship with members of Congress. He also learned about global health, engaging students on campus, and

structuring meetings. He said that he received lots of tips and his trip has gotten him pumped to continue with ONE this semester. "It is comforting to know that WKU is not alone in this effort," Vaughan said, "ONE is not a campaign, it is a movement." Vaughan continued to say that even though the Campus Challenge is a competition, all of the schools come together to work as a team to make a change.

Now that he is back in Bowling Green, the next step for Vaughan is to try to get

more students engaged and representing WKU in the ONE campaign. On Friday, Feb. 1, Vaughan and other ONE leaders held a table in DUC where they collect hundred of signatures. Currently, WKU is ranked as eighth in the nation. Vaughan mentioned that AID hopes to have enough support this semester to help create a recognized chapter of ONE on the hill. "Everyone can visit ONE.org and sign on to support us without any commitment," Vaughan said.



SUBMITTED BY MATT VAUGHAN

Freshman Matt Vaughan with CEO of the ONE campaign David Lane. Vaughan attended the summit as the representative for WKU. The summit was held in Washington D.C. from Jan. 2-5.

Students travel to Germany for Winter Break

MANNIE WEBB

Areté staff writer

Imagine a two-and-a-half-week trip to Europe full of sightseeing and excitement. Doesn't sound like your ordinary class trip does it? About a dozen WKU students traveled to Germany over the J-term earning both Honors language and culture credit.

Students did more than just learn the language in a classroom setting; they spent most afternoons and evenings sightseeing with either the class or in small groups. Class trips included day trips to Potsdam and Meissen along with a weekend trip to Dresden. The class even had several opportunities to go on guided tours. These were not your ordinary boring guided tours; the entire class learned the "courtly bow" from the guide, who role-played as a servant of the royal family. Manfred, a resident of Dresden, was happy to give the group a

tour around his home town, including his favorite restaurant, where some of the best well-known cold German beverages are sold.

Students had plenty to do in Berlin. In addition to historical sights like the Brandenburg Gate and Check Point Charlie, students had the option to explore interesting places, including art and natural history museums and the Lego Discovery Center/Museum. Berlin had something for everyone. The musicians in the group loved visiting one of Berlin's opera houses and symphony halls or even the music museum. Science people enjoyed the Charité, a museum of pathology. Many of the students opted to use their last day to take day trips to several cities and towns outside of Berlin. After all was said and done, the study-abroad trip was a wonderful experience for those who had not and those who had previously studied abroad.



[Above] Ryan Nethery locked in a former Nazi security station.



[Left] (l to r) George Eklund, Ed Rogers, Ross Rogers, Brian Rogers, and Paul Orosz learn the "courtly bow". [Right] Ed Rogers atop a staircase in Sachsenhausen, a former concentration camp



PHOTOS BY MANNIE WEBB

New crop of Harlaxton students share their stories

Elizabeth Thornton

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first month here. I cannot believe it has already been almost a whole month. I just got back from Northern Ireland this past weekend. I went with five other girls that I have met this semester. I had an AMAZING time!! Ireland was absolutely breathtaking!! I walked along the Giant's Causeway...almost getting blown over by the extremely strong winds. I have also been to London and Lincoln. Lincoln was interesting because of all the Roman Britain history there. That trip was fun for me because I got to see first-hand what I had been studying in British Studies.

I think the best experience thus far for me was traveling independently...well with 5 other girls...to Ireland. That was an adventure all its own. It was a trip for me that was a growing experience. I now know I have travel on my own and be okay!! I think the worst part so far was getting used to the time difference. I had a hard time adjusting. But now I am fine and days are just normal days!! I am loving living here in England!!! I am looking forward to my next adventures these next few months!! Good day from me to you!

Helen Pruitt

My best experience would have to be getting to go into the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam. It was really neat and heartbreaking to actually be in the same room that Anne and her family hid in and lived in during WWII.

My worst experience would have to be getting "patted down" in the airport. We were leaving London Stansted Airport and going to Munster, Germany, and while I was going through security, I set off the metal detector. I don't want to do that again!

Brittany Kittleman

What can I say? Harlaxton is truly

amazing. I have been here for about four weeks now, and I am feeling right at home. The best experiences I have had so far have been my traveling adventures. I love traveling on the trains and seeing so many new places. It is astonishing to me how very different each country and city turns out to be. I don't know that I will be able to choose one favorite place, simply because I love all of them for their own uniqueness. The people, the cultures, the architecture and the lifestyles of each city always present something new to experience. I just spent this past weekend in Germany, and it was truly unforgettable. I honestly ate the best hotdog of my entire life, I took a tour of Anne Frank's house, and I saw an entire museum of Van Gogh paintings. I am off to Ireland next week, and I can't wait! This semester is turning out to be even more than I could have ever imagined.

Beth Truax

After recovering from the jet-lag brought on by an entire day of flying, anything can seem like a great experience. But if I had to choose just a couple, I suppose I can narrow it down.

One of my favorite things about everyday life in England is the "toilet" stall. Instead of saying "occupied," they say "engaged." Personally, I find that hilari-

ous, and it makes every trip to the toilet a great experience.

Traveling of course has been of the best parts of this semester and my favorite experience thus far has been driving on the Autobahn. The couple we stayed with in Germany drove us to Amsterdam and we took the Autobahn there. It is truly something to tell people, that I have been on a highway where speed knows no limit.



(Top) Brittany Kittleman, Helen Pruitt, and Beth Truax outside Central Station.

(Bottom) Beth Truax



PHOTOS
SUBMITTED

Insight on Shane Bradley

DANA ADAMS

Areté staff writer

Favorite movie: *Office Space*

How did you get involved with the Honors College at Western?

"In May I found out about several IT jobs that were opening at the same time, working for the different colleges at WKU. I applied to all of them, but after meeting with Dr. Cobane I knew that I needed to be in Honors."

High school mascot: The Greenwood Gator

If you could go anywhere in the world where would you go?

"I'd love to travel to Australia and do some snorkeling on the Great Barrier Reef."

Favorite dessert: Cheesecake

Pet peeve: Being late

What advice would you give to Honors students?

"Take advantage of all the social functions that Honors puts on. Our Honors College pours a lot of effort

into making some great programming, and a good time is always had by all."

If you were stranded on an island for the rest of your life and could only take 3 people who would you choose?

"My Wife . . . can my laptop and Blackberry count?"

What is the one thing you did when you were younger that annoyed your parents?

"Staying out late... all the time."

Favorite thing about the Honors College: "The attitude of our students, who are always willing to help out and always ready for a challenge."

Favorite color: Blue

What are some changes or improvements you would like to see within the Honors College and the center?

"I am looking forward to the changes that Hon-Com will give the Honors College. I see great things happening with our students as they will have an easy way to communicate and share ideas with each other. For anyone that may not know the IT office in the Honors Center has a bit of a water leak. It would be excellent if we could get that resolved."

What exactly is Hon-Com?

"(Honors On-line Community) is a vBulletin Message Board website; they can be found all over the web and cover any variety of topics. Our site is modeled after UCA's (University of Central



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE HONORS COLLEGE

Arkansas) Online Community, built several years ago. Their online community has 1320 members, 41,457 threads, with over 157,000 individual posts!"

What is the current status of Hon-Com?

"We are currently doing beta testing with 55 different users, trying all the features out and building new features that we think students will like. The plan is to have the system open to all Honors students in the fall."

How will it impact the Honors College?

"[Starting in the fall] All Honors students will be able to ability to go online and start posting messages, pictures, and articles. This is also going to be the way students showcase their study abroad experiences. This system will also take the place of the Bio Blurbs that the Honors College has set up for the last two years."

"I am looking forward to the changes that Hon-Com will give the Honors College. I see great things happening with our students as they will have an easy way to communicate and share ideas with each other."

Ginny's journey: writing a thesis proposal

SAM MICALLEF

Areté staff writer

Last semester, junior Ginny Prather met with Honors special assistant Jeremy Phillips about her Capstone Experience/Thesis (CE/T) project. She also worked with her Honors thesis advisor, Dr. John Hagaman, to create her thesis topic. Prather finally decided to write a children's novel and then to design a unit plan focusing around her book. Before spring semester began, she had intended on submitting an Honors Thesis Proposal.

First, however, she still needed to find a second reader. Hagaman recommended an excellent professor from the Education Department, Dr. John Moore. After Moore said yes, Prather was relieved and began to work on her thesis proposal.

"Students really shouldn't underestimate the time it takes to write a proposal," Prather said. She said it took her three hours to write on her own. Then her advisor made suggestions and changes to the proposal before she rewrote it. Overall, it took her approximately a week to reorganize her proposal and pull it together. It also took her a little longer than expected because she intended on working on it during winter break in the Honors Center, but unfortunately was kicked out due to the heating system being broken. Prather finally was able to submit her proposal at the start of this semester.

The working title of the novel Prather is writing is *Ella and Henry*. She is expanding a short story she wrote as a junior in high school. The final product is anticipated to be about 200 pages long and a total of thirty-five chapters. The main character of her book is Ella, the tomboy daughter of a nobleman. The story takes place in colonial England, and while on a ship to London, Ella is captured by pirates. She rescues the prince of England, Henry, and then encounters various adventures on her way back home. "It's sort of the opposite of a Cinderella story," Prather said.



MATT JENKINS

Ginny Prather works at her desk on the never-ending pile of schoolwork.

Currently, Prather is focusing on the content her unit will be based on. She plans on meeting with or contacting Hagaman at least once a week to monitor her progress. One of the struggles she foresees is the format of her unit because it is one she is not familiar using. Time management is also important. Prather is juggling extracurricular activities, school, work, wedding plans, and her thesis. To help her manage time, she scheduled her classes on Mondays and Wednesdays only and has already blocked off time to work on it. As recom-

mended by Phillips, she has broken her project down into smaller chunks in order to make it easier for her to complete.

The next step for her is to continue writing her novel. Prather recommends to students that they begin their proposals early to account for problems they did not anticipate. She also suggests keeping the summer and winter breaks as open as possible to work on the CE/T project.

Follow Prather and her process through completing her thesis in upcoming issues of *Areté*.

Losing John Mark Adams

The death of a young person is always difficult to hear about. Now the WKU Honors College and the Academy for Math and Science have lost one of their own. John Mark Adams, a junior in the Academy from Trigg County High School, passed away while on a mission trip in Pas-

cagoula, Miss. during the winter break. He was 16 years old. John died from respiratory problems while the mission group was doing relief work for Hurricane Katrina. His brother, Barron Adams, is a freshman in the Honors College. John Mark will be greatly missed by his friends and family.

Do you have research you want to present? How about a Capstone Experience/Thesis you need to practice? Or just want to find out what other Honors students across the state are doing? You should look into the Kentucky Honors Round Table (KHRT).

When: Feb. 29—March 1, 2008

Where: Eastern Kentucky University

Details: Deadline for all proposals is 4:30 p.m., Feb. 14, 2008. As host, ECU will provide all KHRT participants with meals throughout the weekend. Even more exciting, ECU is providing tickets to see *Taming of the Shrew*, a performance put on by the ECU Theatre Department. The WKU Honors College will take care of all lodging, transportation and meals for KHRT. Contact Jeremy Phillips in the Office of Scholar Development for further details. jeremy.phillips@wku.edu.

"Speaking at KHRT always makes me nervous. However, I understand that challenging myself to practice public speaking and to share my ideas with like-minded individuals helps me to develop professionally and academically."

- senior Leah Craig, attended KHRT in 2007

HONORS HOUSING QUESTIONS?

Here's how to get answers:

- Watch your email for IMPORTANT information coming out on the listserve soon.
- Check the Honors College website for a link to more information.
- Applications for fall 2008 Honors housing available online SOON!
www.wku.edu/honors



Published monthly by students in the Honors College.

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Get published! *Areté* is not just for students, it's also by students -- including you! Send us letters, commentaries, cartoons, whatever. If you want to share your work with the Honors community, we're here for you.

February/March Calendar

Feb. 14 - Valentine's Day

14 - Deadline for KHRT proposals at 4:30 p.m.

20 - JET/ETA info session in Honors Center at 7 p.m.

Feb. 29-March 1 - KHRT

3 - CET Workshop in Honors Center at 7 p.m.

4 - Udall/NSEP info session in Honors Center at 7 p.m.

4 - Honors Club meeting in DUC 349 at 8 p.m.

10-14 - Spring Break 2008!

17&19 - Harlaxton info session in Honors Center at 7 p.m.

28 - Honors *Rent* trip at Tennessee Performing Arts Center